

Message Text

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LIMDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY KUBISCH FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCAN, PFOR, XM, HA

SUBJECT: WASHINGTON FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING: ATTITUDES OF
HAITI'S FONMIN

1. SUMMARY: FOREIGN MINISTER BRUTUS WILL TAKE A CONSTRUCTIVE POSITION DURING FORTHCOMING FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE, ALIGNING HAITI WITH U.S. ON CUBAN ISSUE AND RESISTING EFFORTS BY SOME LA STATES TO LIFT SANCTIONS. A SEPARATE MEETING WITH DEPUTY ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS COORDINATOR KLEINE IS RECOMMENDED. END SUMMARY.
 2. DURING LUNCHEON CONVERSATION APRIL 9 I FOUND FONMIN BRUTUS LOOKING FORWARD TO HIS FIRST WASHINGTON VISIT AND TO MEETING YOU AND THE SECRETARY. SINCE FORMER FON MIN RAYMOND APPARENTLY LEFT NO FILES, I PROVIDED BRUTUS WITH RELEVANT MEXICO CITY MATERIALS, FOR WHICH HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION. ALTHOUGH BRUTUS IS STILL VERY MUCH CONCERNED WITH QUESTIONS OF EDUCATIONAL POLICY THAT CAME UNDER HIS JURISDICTION AS EDUCATION MINISTER, HE IS BRIEFING HIMSELF ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS RAPIDLY AND EXHIBITS CONSIDERABLE FAMILIARITY WITH WORLD AFFAIRS AND KEEN INTEREST THEREIN. HE WILL BE AN ATTENTIVE AND FRIENDLY MINISTER IN WASHINGTON.
 3. ON CUBA, BRUTUS TOLD ME HE STRONGLY DISAGREES WITH THOSE WHO
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ADVOCATE UNILATERAL LIFTING OF SANCTIONS IMPOSED BY OAS, AND HE

WILL TAKE THIS POSITION DURING ARGENTINE-CONVENED LA CONSULTATIONS NEXT WEEK. SINCE OAS HAD IMPOSED SANCTIONS, HE SAID, IT IS UP TO OAS AS A BODY TO RECONSIDER ISSUE AND ABIDE BY MAJORITY DECISION; OTHERWISE OAS STRUCTURE WOULD BE FATALLY STRAINED. BRUTUS DERIDED WHAT HE CALLED THE EMOTIONAL AND RHETORICAL ATTITUDES OF SOME LA STATES TOWARD CUBA, COMMENTING THAT THOSE WHO ADVOCATED A CHANGE OF POLICY WOULD BE THE FIRST TO SUFFER DOMESTIC CONSEQUENCES, PARTICULARLY AMONG SUSCEPTIBLE YOUTH, WHEN RE-ESTABLISHED CUBAN MISSIONS BEGAN TO DISSEMINATE PROPAGANDA, AS THEY INEVITABLY WOULD.

4. RECOMMENDATION: BRUTUS ENJOYS PARTICULAR RESPECT IN HAITI AND WITHIN THE CABINET, APPEARS TO HAVE READY ACCESS TO PRESIDENT DUVALIER, UNDERSTANDS HAITI'S PERENNIAL "IMAGE" PROBLEM IN THE U.S., AND IS AWARE OF SENATE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE CRITICISM OF AID PROGRAM FOR HAITI. I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL IF IN COURSE OF WASHINGTON CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE MADE FOR HIM TO MEET INFORMALLY WITH HERMAN KLEINE SO THAT HE MIGHT BECOME MORE FAMILIAR WITH U.S. POLICIES AND DOMESTIC CONSIDERATIONS AFFECTING AID PROGRAMS GENERALLY AND THAT IN HAITI SPECIFICALLY. ISHAM

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